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Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture
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Mink Pelt Production

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This is the first year mink production numbers were published for Montana. During 2007, there were 8 farms with a total production of 25,930 pelts, of which 9,000 were in the black color class. In 2008, there were 6,690 females bred to produce kits, 4,000 of which were in the black color class.

Mink pelt production in the United States in 2007 totaled 2.83 million pelts, down 1 percent from 2006. Wisconsin produced the most at 914,100 pelts. Utah was second with 599,430 pelts produced.

The number of pelts by color class as a percent of the total U.S. production in 2007 is as follows: Black at 52 percent, Mahogany at 20 percent, Blue Iris at 10 percent, Demi/Wild at 5 percent, White at 4 percent, and Sapphire at 4 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 5 percent.

Mink pelts produced during the 2007 crop year, sold in 2008, were valued at \$186 million, up 34 percent from \$139 million a year ago. The average price per pelt for the 2007 crop year was \$65.70, up \$17.30 from \$48.40 in 2006.

Female mink bred to produce kits in 2008 totaled 691,170, down 1 percent from the previous year.

Percent of total females bred to produce kits in 2008 by color class: Black at 54 percent, Mahogany at 20 percent, Blue Iris at 9 percent, Sapphire at 4 percent, Demi/Wild at 4 percent, and White at 3 percent. The remaining color classes accounted for 6 percent.

There were 283 mink farms producing pelts in 2007, up 1 percent from a year ago. The three leading States were Wisconsin with 71 farms, Utah with 65 farms, and Idaho with 24 farms.

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